



## NEWS MISCELLANY

### BITS OF QUEER AND INTERESTING ITEMS.

Compiled from the Drag Net of Daily Happenings—Matters of More Than Passing Interest.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Gov. Lowden granted a reprieve until May 18 to "Chicken Joe" Campbell, a negro, convicted in Will county of murdering Mrs. Edmund M. Allen, wife of former Warden Allen of Joliet penitentiary.

Thirty-seven game cocks, worth \$10,000, were captured in a raid in Pittsburgh. They were ordered into hospital soup pots.

Protestant residents of Berkeley, a suburb of Chicago, wanted a church in a hurry and they got it. A building costing several hundred dollars was completed in one day.

The bodies of F. C. Babcock, chief electrician, and M. E. Read, a surveyor, were found in an air intake chamber of the Elephant Butte dam. They were suffocated.

#### PERSONAL.

Vilhjalmr Steffansson, the arctic explorer, is wintering at Prince of Wales straits on his gasoline schooner Polar Bear.

Mrs. Catherine Cudaby, widow of Michael Cudaby, the packer, has been made a papal countess by Pope Benedict XV.

Mrs. Helen C. Sawyer, wife of Ned Sawyer, the amateur golf champion, has been granted a divorce at Wheaton, Ill., on statutory grounds.

Buffalo as "the graveyard of evangelism" apparently has tamed the vice-fighting, devil-beating, booze-baiting Billy Sunday.

Thomas J. Slate was married to his mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary J. Kling, at Mansfield, Mo.

#### COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Robert S. Frazer, 34, convicted of the murder of his niece, Stella Kenney, 17, at Louisville, Ky., was sentenced to imprisonment for life.

The United States supreme court refused to reopen or reconsider its recent decision in the Diggs-Cammetti Mann act cases and denied the application of F. Drew Cammetti of Sacramento for a rehearing.

A wife's affections are worth but \$5 in Hamilton county, Tenn. This was the price fixed by the jury in the suit of J. B. Snelling against Hardy Allison, charging alienation.

#### CONGRESSIONAL.

Thirty citizens of Jonesboro, Ark., contributed a silver time each and sent it to Senator Kirby of Arkansas as his share for participating in the recent filibuster.

More than 1,400 nominations sent to the senate during the last session by President Wilson failed of confirmation.

#### FIRES.

The Durex chemical plant at Sweetwater, Tenn., was destroyed by fire, with a loss estimated at \$200,000.

The plant of the Steiger Terra Cotta Pottery Co., at South San Francisco, was destroyed by fire.

#### COMMERCIAL.

Automobile exports reached a total in 1916 of \$133,289,514, an increase over the figures of 1915 of nearly \$13,000,000, according to statistics furnished by the national chamber of commerce.

#### NECROLOGICAL.

Mrs. Ursula Burroughs, 87, wife of John Burroughs, the naturalist, is dead at her home in West Park, N. Y.

#### DOMESTIC.

Mrs. Lucia Ames Mead of Boston, secretary of the Woman's Peace society, was laughed off the stage by students of Northwestern university when she attempted an anti-preparedness speech.

Robert S. Phillips of Chicago told navy recruiting officers he "could blow up anything from a tin can to a battleship" and wanted to join the navy. He joined.

Patriotism, stirred by international developments, was credited by the war department as the reason behind February record recruiting figures—4,852 men.

The federal trade commission will not undertake the food cost investigation ordered by President Wilson, because of the failure of congress to appropriate the money.

The state department announces Ambassador Gerard and party are due at Havana.

Sentence of five years at hard labor in the Leavenworth penitentiary against Second Lieutenant Jack H. Huggins, Second Arkansas infantry, was confirmed by the president.

To encourage small towns and villages to maintain national guard units the war department has authorized the formation of detached platoons.

The emergency peace federation announces plans for establishment of a commission of five members to "work out a solution of the trouble between this country and Germany and a code for submarine warfare."

William Albright 65, a farmer of Clearfield, Pa., has just tendered the service of himself, 14 sons and seven daughters to President Wilson.

Two arrests followed the Pulaski county (Ark.) grand jury's investigation of charges of bribery in the Arkansas legislature. Walter Powell was arrested on the charge he conspired with State Senator I. C. Burgess for the killing of a bill.

#### GENERAL.

Proposed increases of from 5 to 12 per cent in freight rates on grain and grain products from St. Louis and Cairo, Ill., to points in Arkansas were suspended.

Dealers say the price of Easter lilies will be cheaper this year than any year before, on account of the war.

Four persons are missing and believed to be dead as the result of a fire which destroyed the building at the Boone county (La.) poor farm.

Thomas Collins, a blacksmith of Biloxi, Miss., has forged a large iron cross and sent it to Senator James K. Vardaman by parcel post with the inscription "Let the Kaiser Forget."

The Kansas senate has passed the house anti-cigarette bill with an amendment which makes it a misdemeanor to sell, barter or use the articles within the borders of the state.

Swollen streams in East Tennessee, East Alabama and South Georgia have done thousands of dollars' damage to property and threaten most serious floods in years.

#### CRIMINAL.

Payton Buckle, 62, died at Taylorville, Ill., of fracture of the skull suffered in a fight with Albert Phoenix, aged 45. The men quarreled over money.

John Lightsinger of Nashville, Tenn., likes heavy music. He stole a piano out of a church and carried it two miles. He was caught when he went back for the stool.

Roy Ard, a wealthy Kansas farmer, was arrested, charged with the murder of his wife near Elmore, Kan., two and a half years ago.

William Becker, son and confidential secretary of John P. Becker, Sr., who, with his wife, was murdered in his home near Mason City, Ill., in December, was arrested at his home on a warrant charging murder.

Oliver Hall was shot and killed and Fred W. Peters, a policeman, fatally wounded in a revolver fight which occurred at Springfield, Ill., when Peters is said to have thought he had discovered Hall robbing a freight car.

After taking the jailer's keys and locking him in a cell, five men escaped from the King county (Wash.) jail. A visitor at the jail was robbed of \$16.

A New York federal grand jury which has for several months been investigating the high cost of food and fuel has returned three indictments.

Robert Davis of St. Paul, Minn., in under arrest, charged with luring Miss Bernice Roberts, a 17-year-old high school girl of Lawrenceville, Ill., to Vincennes, Ind., where he detained her in a room for three days.

C. H. Powell was arrested on a charge of murder in connection with the death of Lee Crosby, a barber, at Savannah, Ok., charged with selling him bay rum as a beverage.

#### POLITICAL.

A joint resolution authorizing Gov. Williams to "pay a reward of \$100 to the first American gunner who destroys a German submarine" was introduced in the Oklahoma legislature.

The Minnesota lower house killed a bill making the state bony dry on Jan. 1, 1918, by supporting a measure, \$1 to 48, to indefinitely postpone.

No-license forces have made a gain of six towns in Vermont on the incomplete returns from the late election.

For the first time in the history of the Seventh Illinois judicial district a Republican was elected circuit judge in the special election to fill the vacancy following the death of Judge James Creighton.

#### ACCIDENTS.

Four men are dead as the result of an explosion in the assembling room of the Ford Automobile Co. at Cincinnati.

Eleven men of the coast guard cuter Yamacraw perished in attempting to rescue the crew of the Standard Oil steamer Louisiana off the Virginia capes.

Chairman Flood of Virginia and Representative J. Willard Ragsdale of South Carolina were injured when an automobile in which they were leaving the capital collided with a taxicab.

#### FOREIGN.

Labor heads issued a call for a mass meeting in London March 31, to voice labor's opposition to the move for national industrial conscription.

The palace at Lima, Peru, is under a heavy guard. Strong censorship is in effect as the result of a revolutionary movement.

The outbreak of smallpox in Berlin and its immediate vicinity has induced the military authorities to order compulsory vaccination. Eighty cases have already been reported.

Vicente Balao, editor of Herald de la Antillas, a native Porto Rican and a consistent anti-American, has declined to accept American citizenship under the new organic act.

Senora Hermilla Salido, the woman suffrage party's candidate for congress, wound up her campaign at an enthusiastic meeting in the capital.

The quarantine under which the Yarrowdale prisoners have been held by Germany has expired and the state department looked for word that their release has been ordered.

## SLEW AN AGED MAN

Proprietor of Excelsior Springs Popcorn Stand Shoots an Omaha Resident.

### NO CAUSE FOR KILLING KNOWN

Shooting Took Place in Auditorium During Busy Part of Day—Slayer in Jail.

A fatal shooting the causes of which are much obscured, took place in the Auditorium at Excelsior Springs recently. Urban B. Balcombe, 65 years old, an Omaha insurance and real estate man, was the victim. Bee B. Smith, 26, proprietor of a popcorn stand in the Auditorium, was the slayer.

The shooting took place at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, a time when the bowling alleys of the Auditorium, close to the popcorn stand, were the center of amusement for scores of persons. Despite this, only one man has been found who will admit witnessing the shooting. According to the story of J. M. Brill, as told to the corner, Balcombe entered the building from the front and walked directly toward Smith's stand. He heard no words pass between the men, but Smith fired twice and Balcombe fell.

After the slaying, Smith was taken to the county jail at Liberty by Sheriff Sissom, and is being held without bail. He refused to make a statement.

There are various opinions as to the cause of the shooting. One is that Smith and Balcombe quarreled last week, when the Omaha man was in Excelsior Springs on a visit, and that Smith was waiting for him to reappear. Another story is that Balcombe had a habit of picking up candy and gum from Smith's stand until the latter became exasperated beyond restraint.

Still another angle in the case involves mistaken identity. E. G. Simrall, prosecuting attorney, has received information indicating that Balcombe may not have been the man with whom Smith had trouble.

Bee B. Smith is a son of L. A. Smith, who was in business with him. They formerly lived in Topeka.

#### Sues Owner for Fire Loss.

Alleging that a fire which destroyed forty motor cars and caused a loss of \$40,000 at St. Joseph, was caused by workmen building a fire under a can of kerosene, which exploded, suit for \$4,000 was filed against Dr. M. J. Farber, owner of the garage, by Hugh B. La Rue, who had a lot of electric batteries destroyed.

#### Improvements for Marshall.

Marshall is to have a new shoe factory, city hospital, a public library and a community center. Topics were under discussion recently at a meeting of the Commercial club. The high school auditorium is also to be enlarged and a gymnasium and swimming pool added.

#### Kansas Citizens in Hotel Fire.

The McGill hotel, a two-story brick building, was burned at Branson recently. Mr. and Mrs. Frank D. McMillen of Kansas City, who occupied rooms on the second floor, escaped by climbing down a blanket hung from a window, after they were almost overcome by smoke.

#### Bull Gored Methodist Minister.

The Rev. C. M. Gray, 60 years old, Methodist circuit minister, was injured dangerously when he was gored by a bull on his farm near Hannibal the other day.

#### Two Escape From Asylum.

A. W. Raine and Martin Morris escaped from the Fulton state insane hospital recently. Raine is the man who made an attack several years ago on Dr. John M. Grant of St. Louis, and who was adjudged insane at his trial. Raine has escaped twice before. The police of St. Louis, Kansas City, St. Joseph and other cities have been notified to be on the lookout for the men.

#### Park Wins Oratorical Contest.

In the state oratorical contest held at Parkville recently, Deeler Blevin, representing Park college, was awarded first place; Paul Vietz of Central Wesleyan, second, and Erwin Gram of Tarkio, third. Captain William Jewell and Westminster colleges were also represented in the contest.

#### Falling Derrick Kills One, Hurts Four.

Cecil Gowdy, 26 years old, was killed and four other men were badly injured by a falling derrick at the Vesuvius mine four miles northwest of Carthage. The injured were taken to the hospital at Carthage. It is believed all will recover.

#### Pioneer Dies at Monroe City.

J. G. Fugua, lifelong resident of Monroe City, is dead. He was born in Monroe county and was 60 years old. For a number of years he was an extensive male buyer. A widow and two sons, Warren Fugua of Monroe City, and Harry Fugua of Kansas City, survive.

#### The Gilliam Globe Sold.

The Gilliam Globe was sold to B. F. Romine of Choteau, Ok. He has published newspapers in Illinois, Indiana and Oklahoma.

## MARYVILLE HAS IMPROVED

A Year of Prohibition Has Made Great Changes—To "Dress Up" This Year.

Maryville has been without saloons just one year, and likes it. It does not want to go back to licensed bars, even with a higher license than before, and Maryville's two saloons paid the biggest license in the country, \$5,250 each a year. Despite the fact that the city has to do without this revenue, which in a town of this size amounts to nearly enough to pay the general expenses, the deficit has not been noticed to any great extent.

Police records show a falling off in arrests of nearly 50 per cent. Undesirable characters have left the city and merchants report more "doubtful" accounts paid than ever before. One of the former saloon buildings is occupied as a garage and the other as a storage house by a large mercantile concern.

In a plan to "Make Maryville the Prettiest City," civic societies, women's clubs, the public schools, the state normal faculty and city and county officials have enlisted with the Maryville Commercial club. They want to make this the "best dressed" town in the state. The plan contemplates converting vacant lots into school gardens, making a city park around the water tower, converting an abandoned cemetery near the heart of the town into a beauty spot, remaking the courthouse square into a modern park, improving grounds about all public buildings, and planting attractive shrubs and flowers on street parkings and school lawns.

C. C. Leeson and C. H. Belting, landscape experts at the State Normal school, are working out plans which will be submitted at a meeting of citizens. Group meetings are being held by property owners in various city blocks and there will be a rivalry to see which block can be made the most attractive.

## ATHLETIC STARS TO MEET

The Crack Track Teams of Missouri and Kansas Universities to Contend in Kansas City.

The fourteenth annual dual track meet between Missouri and Kansas University track teams will be held in Convention hall, Kansas City, Friday, March 16th. Both teams have athletes of national and international reputation among the members, and this meet promises to be the most classy and abnormally contested meet ever held in Convention hall. The college enthusiasm and keen rivalry of long standing between the two universities assures a large attendance.

Captain Bob Simpson, world's champion, who broke the record in the high hurdle event in the recent K. C. A. C. meet, will perform for M. U. in the same event against the K. U. hurdlers. The best time previously made in the 50-yard indoor high hurdles was 7 seconds. In the special event trial for the world's record, Simpson hung up a new mark of 6.3 seconds.

Captain Rodkey of K. U. will bring to the meet with him his crack team of athletes which made such a wonderful showing at the Chicago meet on March 3.

A feature of this dual meet is an invitation relay event in which several hundred Kansas City ward school boys will participate.

#### Suit Over a Body.

Paul H. Ditzgen, a lawyer of Kansas City, Kas., and his sister, Mrs. Margaret F. Yaeger of New Baden, Ill., have filed suit for \$20,100 damages from the Hemmelmann-Shackler Real Estate Company of St. Louis, because of the removal of their father's body from the old Holy Ghost cemetery.

#### St. Louis Clay Workers Go Out.

When three thousand clay products workers, employed at the many manufacturing plants in St. Louis, went on strike recently, they virtually tied up the industry. The men demand a salary increase from \$2.10 to \$2.50 for ten hours' work. They also believe they are entitled to an 8-hour day.

#### Death in Auto Accident.

L. H. Cook, a miner, was killed and O. H. Gentry, Mrs. Floyd Turner and Mrs. Harry Kiser were injured seriously at Joplin when a switch engine backed into a motor car in which they were crossing the railroad tracks. Cook jumped when he saw a collision could not be averted and fell in front of the engine. The others were pinned beneath the wrecked automobile.

#### Sylvester J. Cotten, 82 years old,

was buried at Windsor recently. He was the oldest citizen of Windsor, but the oldest and last of the old time residents, coming there from Miller county, Missouri, in 1860. He held the office of justice of the peace and police judge twenty-five years.

#### Wind Damage at Rich Hill.

A high wind at Rich Hill caused much damage to small buildings, roofs and trees. The 70-foot smoke stack on the city power plant was blown down, disabling the plant and leaving the city without electric power.

#### Hotel Proprietor Dead.

Rodney D. Henry, proprietor of the Henry hotel in Butler, is dead after several months' illness. He was born in Brooklyn, Ky., in 1850, and had lived in Butler since 1886.

## Advantages of Fireless Cooker.

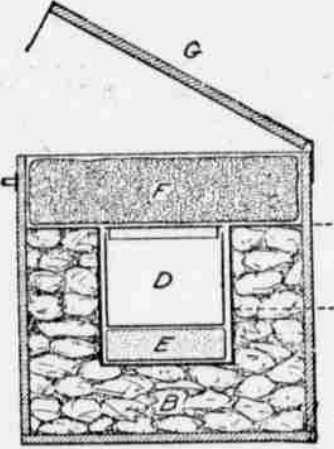
How to make a very satisfactory device at home at low cost :: Directions for its use



VERY satisfactory fireless cookers may be made at a relatively slight expense, according to specialists of the office of home economics of the department of agriculture. The outside of the cooker may be a tightly built wooden box, an old trunk, a small barrel, a large butter or lard tin or tin, or a large galvanized-iron bucket with close-fitting cover. In general, a well-built, conveniently sized box is perhaps most satisfactory, though the cookers entirely encased in metal have the advantage of being fireproof.

If a box is to be used, its size will depend on the size of the cooking kettle to be used in it and on whether there are to be one or two compartments. It must be large enough to allow for at least 4 inches of packing material all around the "nest" in which the cooking kettle is to be placed. For the sake of cleanliness and convenience the nest should be lined with metal and should be a trifle larger than the cooking utensil. If an extra source of heat, such as a hot brick or plate, is to be used, a metal lining for the nest is imperative. For this purpose a galvanized iron or other metal bucket may be used, or, better still, a tinsmith can make a lining of galvanized iron or zinc which can be provided with a rim to cover the cooking material. In case no hot stone or plate is to be used in the cooker, the lining can be made of strong cardboard.

For the packing and insulating material a variety of substances may be used. Asbestos and mineral wool are good and have the additional advantage that they do not burn. Ground cork (such as is used in packing Ma-



Longitudinal Section Through Fireless Cooker.

Showing details of construction: A, Outside container (wooden box, old trunk, etc.); B, Packing or insulating material (crumpled paper, cinders, etc.); C, Metal lining in nest; D, Cooking kettle; E, Soapstone plate or other source of heat; F, Pad of excelsior for covering top; G, Hinged cover of outside container.

lina grapes), hay, excelsior, Spanish moss, wool, and crumpled paper may also be used satisfactorily. Of the inexpensive materials that can be obtained easily, crumpled paper is probably the most satisfactory, since it is clean and odorless and, if properly packed, will hold the heat better than some of the others. To pack the container with paper, crush single sheets of newspaper between the hands. Pack a layer at least 4 inches deep over the bottom of the outside container, tramping it in or pounding it in with a heavy stick of wood. Stand the cooking vessel, or the lined container for the nest in the center of this layer and pack more crushed paper about it as solidly as possible.

Other packing, such as excelsior, hay, or cork dust, is used, it should be packed in a similar way. Where an extra source of heat is to be used, it is much safer to pack the fireless cooker with some non-inflammable material, such as asbestos or mineral wool. A cheap and easily obtained substitute is the small cinders sifted from coal ashes, preferably those from soft coal, which may be obtained at the boiler house of any mill. The cinders from hard coal burned in the kitchen range will do, however. Experiments with this material made by home-economics specialists of the department of agriculture showed that it is very nearly as satisfactory as crumpled paper as a packing material. If a fireproof packing material is not used a heavy pad of asbestos paper should be put at the bottom of the metal nest and a sheet or two of asbestos paper should be placed between the lining of the nest and the packing material. Whatever packing material is used, it should come to the top of the contain-

er for the kettle, and the box should be about 4 inches of being full. A cushion or pad must be provided to fill completely the space between the top of the packing and the cover of the box after the hot kettles are put in place. This should be made of some heavy goods, such as denim, and stuffed with cotton, crumpled paper, or excelsior. Hay may be used, but will be found more or less odorous.

The kettles used for cooking should be durable and free from seams or crevices, which are hard to clean. They should have perpendicular sides and the covers should be as flat as possible and provided with a deep rim shutting well down into the kettle to retain the steam. It is possible to buy kettles made especially for use in fireless cookers; these are provided with covers which can be clamped on tightly. The size of the kettle should be determined by the quantity of food to be cooked. Small amounts of food cannot be cooked satisfactorily in large kettles, and it is therefore an advantage to have a cooker with compartments of two or more different sizes. Kettles holding about 6 quarts are of convenient size for general use. Tinned-iron kettles should not be used in a fireless cooker, for, although cheap, they are very apt to rust from the confined moisture. Enameled-ware kettles are satisfactory, especially if the covers are of the same material. Aluminum vessels may be purchased in shapes which make them especially well adapted for use in fireless cookers and, like enameled ware, they do not rust.

#### How to Use the Fireless Cooker.

Obviously the fireless cooker must be used with intelligence to obtain the best results. It is best suited to those foods which require boiling, steaming, or long, slow cooking in a moist heat. Foods cannot be fried in it, pies cannot be baked successfully in the ordinary fireless cooker, nor can any cooking be done which requires a high, dry heat for browning. Meats, however, may be partially roasted in the oven and finished in the cooker, or may be begun in the cooker and finished in the oven with much the same results as if they were roasted in the oven entirely. The classes of food best adapted to the cooker are cereals, soups, meats, vegetables, dried fruits, steamed breads, and puddings.

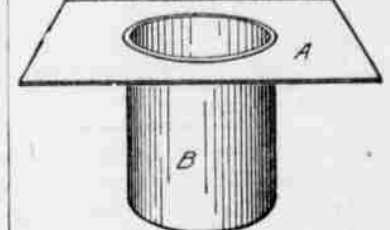
When different foods are cooked together in the fireless cooker they must be such as require the same amount of cooking, since the cooker cannot be opened to take out food without allowing the escape of a large amount of heat and making it necessary to reheat the contents. It would not do to put foods which need about one and one-half hours to cook into the cooker with a piece of meat which would stay several hours.

The size of the container used in cooking with the fireless cooker should be governed according to the amount of food to be cooked. Small quantities of food cannot be cooked satisfactorily in a large kettle in the fireless cooker. If a large kettle must be used, better results will be obtained if some other material which holds heat fairly well is used to fill up the empty space. This may be accomplished in several ways. One is to put the small quantity of food to be cooked into a smaller, tightly closed kettle, fill the large kettle with boiling water and put the

small kettle into it, standing it on an inverted bowl or some other suitable support. This boiling water will take up and hold the heat better than air would. Several smaller dishes (if tightly covered) may be placed in the kettle surrounded by boiling water. Baking powder or other tins often are found useful for this purpose. Another way is to place one food in a basin which just fits into the top of a large kettle and to let some other material, some vegetable perhaps, cook in the water in the bottom of the kettle. Two or more flat, shallow kettles placed one on top of the other so as to fill the cooker, enable one to cook small amounts of different foods successfully. Such kettles, made especially for use in fireless cookers, may be purchased.

#### Time Required for Cooking.

The time which each kind of food should stay in the cooker depends both on the nature of the food and on the temperature at which it remains inside the cooker, and before recipes for use with the fireless cooker can be prepared one must have some means of knowing how temperatures are preserved in it. In experiments made in



Metal Lining for Nest for Fireless Cooker.

A, Rim to cover packing material; B, Container for cooking kettle and hot stone.

the office of home economics a 6-quart kettle was filled with boiling water and put into the cooker, the packing of which happened to be newspaper. The temperature of the water, which was 212 degrees F. when put into the cooker, was found to be 172 degrees F. after four hours had elapsed and 155 degrees F. after eight hours had elapsed. This shows the advisability of the common custom of allowing food to remain undisturbed in the cooker for at least six or eight hours, or in some cases overnight. If a soapstone, hot brick, or other extra source of heat is used, less time will be required. Materials which are denser than water (sugar syrup as used in cooking dried fruit), and therefore can be heated to a higher degree, will keep up the temperature longer when put into the cooker. Thus the density of the food material, as well as the amount and the length of time that the apparatus retains the heat, must be taken into consideration in determining how long different materials must be cooked in the cooker.

The recipes for dishes to be prepared in the fireless cooker differ somewhat from those for foods cooked in the ordinary way, chiefly in the amount of water or other liquids called for. Less liquid should be put into the food to be prepared in an ordinary fireless cooker, since there is no chance for water to evaporate. The cook must be guided largely by experience in deciding how long the food should be heated before being put into the cooker and how long it should be allowed to remain there.

## CHILD IS INJURED BY NAGGING

This is the conclusion reached by a physical trainer after years spent in trying to restore abnormal bodies to normal condition. A child that is nagged at never holds itself well, he declares. Its deportment betrays its mental attitude, and to the trained eye of the physical-training instructor the round shoulders and apologetic air tell their own story in the case of a child whose physique otherwise reveals no sign of constitutional weakness.

The attitude of the body discloses, in a marvelous way, that of the mind; and many parents would be astonished to learn that the bearing of their children reflects their home influences in a very unflattering light.

While lunching with a lady the other day, he says, I listened to a tale of distress about her little boy's flat chest. Presently, the child came in from school, running excitedly to show his new "jogrophy" book with colored pictures. "Oh, yes, dear, but don't start with it now; go and wash your hands and get tidy." The child's enthusiastic little face fell, his flat little chest seemed flatter still, and he resignedly put away his book and left the room. There will be little chance for